

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 09749 291008Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AS-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /061 W

-----123164 291201Z /41

R 290922Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9036

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 9749

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: JA, PDIP, KS, CH

SUBJECT: SENIOR LEVEL RE-SHUFFLE IN FONOFF

1. CABINET JUNE 28 ANNOUNCED BEGINNING OF LONG-AWAITED  
RE-SHUFFLE OF FONOFF SENIOR RANKS:

--VICE MINISTER SHOJI SATO WAS NAMED AS NEW AMBASSADOR  
TO PRC;

-- DEPUTY MINISTER KEISUKE ARITA REPLACED SATO AS FONOFF  
VICE MINISTER; AND

-- RYOZO SONOBE, FORMER AMBASSADOR TO INDONESIA, WAS  
ASSIGNED AS AMBASSADOR TO ROK.

2. IN ANNOUNCEMENT TO PRESS, GOJ PLAYED UP ASSIGNMENT  
OF SATO TO PEKING AS INDICATION OF IMPORTANCE PM FUKUDA  
ATTACHED TO EARLY RESUMPTION OF DEADLOCKED NEGOTIATIONS  
ON SINO-JAPANESE PFT. AT 63, SATO IS ONE OF FONOFF'S  
MOST CAPABLE AND RESPECTED SENIOR DIPLOMATICS WITH  
SUCCESSFUL RECORD OF MANAGING PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT  
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 09749 291008Z

NEGOTIATIONS. HIS REPLACEMENT AT FONOFF, ARITA  
(WHO INCIDENTALLY FOLLOWS IN FOOTSTEPS OF FATHER  
WHO SERVED AS FOREIGN MINISTER AND VICE MINISTER),  
IS KNOWN AS THOROUGH AND AGGRESSIVE OFFICER WITH  
IN-HOUSE REPUTATION FOR OUTSPOKENNESS. NEW  
AMBASSADOR TO SEOUL, SONOBE, IS FORMER DIRGEN FOR  
ASIAN AFFAIRS AND HIGHLY REGARDED BY COLLEAGUES

AS ABLE ADMINISTRATOR.

3. COMMENT: GIVEN ALMOST LOCK-STEP NATURE OF  
CAREER ADVANCEMENT IN FONOFF, THESE MOVES AT TOP  
WILL BE REFLECTED IN FURTHER SHIFTS THROUGHOUT  
FONOFF LATER THIS SUMMER. NEXT LIKELY CANDIDATE  
FOR RE-ASSIGNMENT IS DEPUTY MINISTER BUNROKU  
YOSHINO, ECONOMIC EXPERT, WHOM PERSISTENT FONOFF  
RUMORS PEG AS POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR TO AMBASSADOR TOGO  
IN WASHINGTON.  
MANSFIELD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 29-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TOKYO09749  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770231-1338  
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**From:** TOKYO  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t1977065/aaaaaejt.tel  
**Line Count:** 73  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 8fcd7c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2126427  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SENIOR LEVEL RE-SHUFFLE IN FONOFF  
**TAGS:** PDIP, JA, KS, CH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/8fcd7c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009